

Message Text

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17

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07

LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 AID-05 FRB-03 USIA-06 TRSE-00

XMB-02 OPIC-03 SP-02 CIEP-01 OMB-01 NSC-05 SS-15

STR-04 CEA-01 L-03 H-02 PA-01 PRS-01 SAM-01 /099 W

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R 201843Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8287

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY MADRID

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION OECD PARIS

AMCONSUL BELFAST

AMCONSUL EDINBURGH

AMCONSUL LIVERPOOL

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E.O. 11652: N-A

TAGS: EEC, ELAB, SP

SUBJECT: TUC PRESSES CALLAGHAN NOT TO RAISE SPANISH TA-
RIFF EXTENSION Q//QUESTION

1. ACCORDING TO A TUC SOURCE. A DELEGATION OF THE TUC

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INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE MET WITH FOREIGN SECRETARY JAMES

CALLAGHAN JANUARY 16 TO URGE HIM NOT TO SEEK AGREEMENT FROM BRITAIN'S EC PARTNERS TO RENEW THE NEGOTIATIONS TO TAKE ACCOUNT OF THE ENLARGEMENT OF THE COMMUNITY IN TERMS OF THE 1970 SPANISH AGREEMENT.

2. THE DELEGATION, LED BY JACK JONES AND LEN MURRAY, MET WITH CALLAGHAN WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF THE BASIC TUC POSITION THAT BRITAIN SHOULD NOT ASSIST SPAIN'S ENTRY INTO INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS SUCH AS THE EC AND NATO UNTIL IT WAS PREPARED TO ACCEPT DEMOCRATIC METHODS, INCLUDING RECOGNITION OF CIVIL AND TRADE UNION RIGHTS. CALLAGHAN ARGUED THAT THE ISSUE OF EXTENDING SPANISH TRADE ARRANGEMENTS WITH THE EC TO INCLUDE THE UK WAS ESSENTIALLY A TECHNICAL MATTER. HOWEVER, WHILE MAKING NO COMMITMENT FOR THE FUTURE, HE SAID THAT HE WOULD NOT RAISE THIS ISSUE DURING TODAY'S (JANUARY 20) EC COUNCIL. HE ALSO PROMISED TO MAKE REFERENCE TO TRADE UNION FREEDOM IN SPAIN DURING THE COURSE OF TODAY'S MEETING. (CALLAGHAN DID NOT EXPECT ANY OTHER MEMBER TO RAISE THE ISSUE OF EXTENDING SPAIN'S TARIFF ARRANGEMENT WITH THE EC SINCE THE UK WAS THE ONLY EC MEMBER AFFECTED.)

3. COMMENT: THE TUC FULLY EXPECTS THAT THE FOREIGN SECRETARY WILL RAISE THE ISSUE AT A LATER DATE. IN GENERAL TERMS, THE BRITISH POSITION IS TO ENCOURAGE THE PRESENT SPANISH GOVERNMENT TO MOVE AS FAST AS POSSIBLE IN A LIBERAL DIRECTION WHILE TRYING TO AVOID PUBLIC CRITICISM OF IT WHEN IT CAN, EVEN THOUGH SOME FACTIONS WITHIN THE LABOR PARTY ALD THE TUC MAY DEMAND IT.

SPIERS

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Message Attributes

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